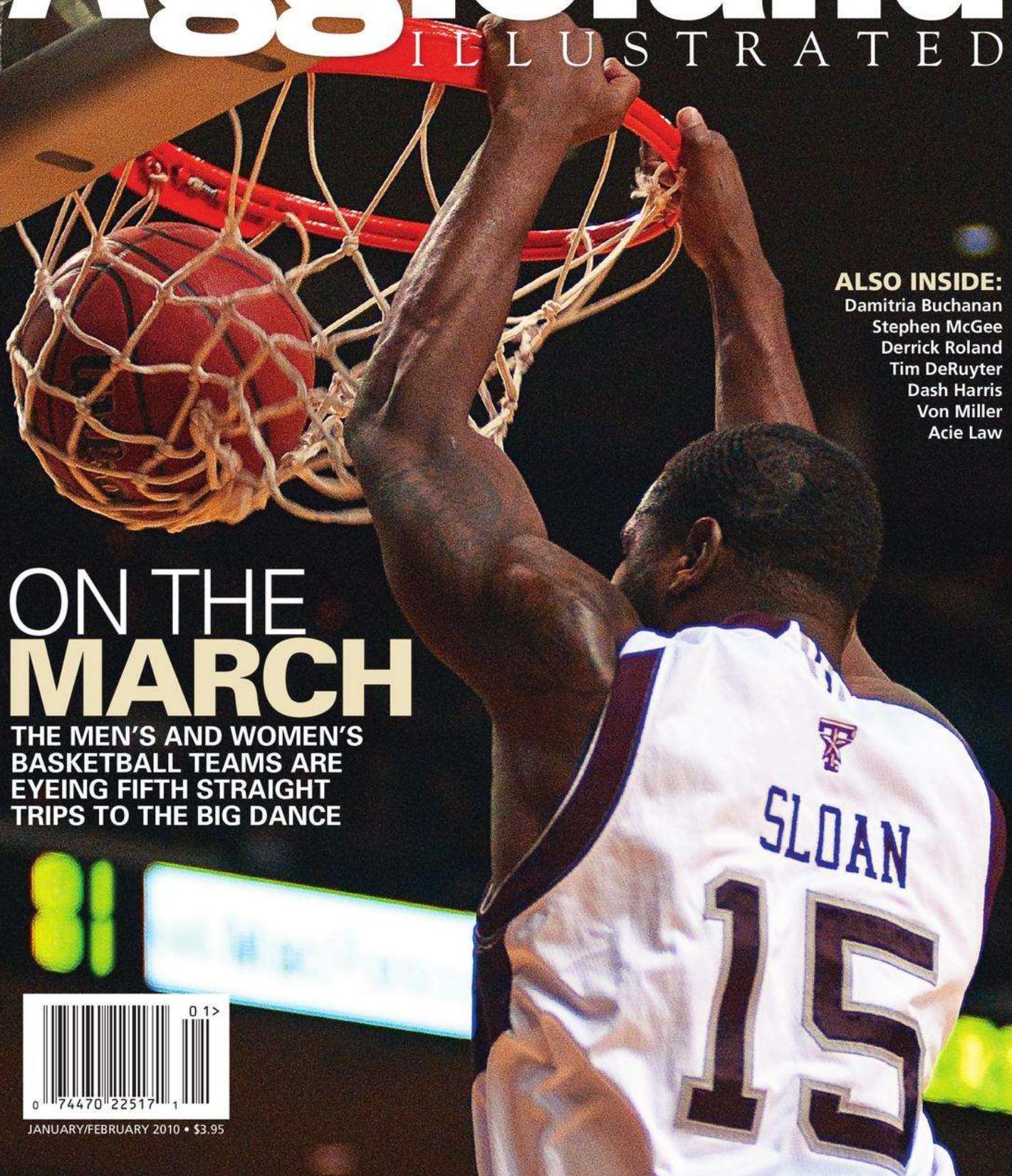
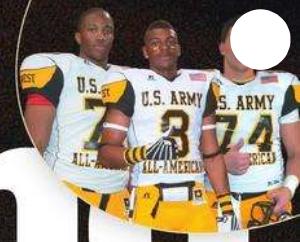


2010 FOOTBALL RECRUITING ISSUE

# Aggieland

ILLUSTRATED



**ALSO INSIDE:**

Damitria Buchanan  
Stephen McGee  
Derrick Roland  
Tim DeRuyter  
Dash Harris  
Von Miller  
Acie Law

## ON THE MARCH

THE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAMS ARE EYEING FIFTH STRAIGHT TRIPS TO THE BIG DANCE

81



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JANUARY/FEBRUARY 10



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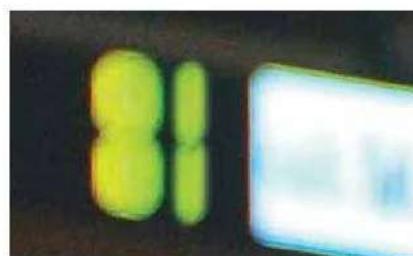
Catching up with Aggie legends Acie Law and Stephen McGee.

BY STEVE HUNT

## 23 Meet the 2010 Texas Aggie Football Recruiting Class

The Texas A&M football program welcomes 23 newcomers to the Aggie family, including the top offensive line haul in the nation.

BY JEREMY KSIONDA '04



### FIND THE 01

**On the Cover:** Senior Donald Sloan showed his support for best friend and teammate Derrick Roland by shaving a "3" on the back of his head. Photo by Jason McConnell '01.

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**Do you recognize the above photo from campus?** Send an e-mail to [photo@aggiemag.com](mailto:photo@aggiemag.com) and let us know where it was taken. Be the first to get it right and we'll send you a **free gift**. Look for the answer in the next issue of *AI*. The photo in the December 09 issue was of a Christmas tree in the Jack K. Williams Administration building.

## **publisher's note**

### **Howdy!**

*First and foremost, be it known to all that this is dedicated to those individuals (or one specific individual) who thought it impossible for me to pull out a victory in this year's AI staff bowl picks competition. Typically, the staff member who finishes last is "sentenced" to filling this column for the following issue. However, in a slight breach of AI tradition, that individual and the publisher (one in the same – oops) agreed to bestow that privilege upon the winner this year. To clarify for those individuals (or one individual) who may still be confused, that winner would be me. I'm just sayin'. Oh – and an honorable mention to the love of my life and bowl picks advisor, Michael Hamilton, without whom I would surely be writing this as a result of the usual AI tradition. Love you, babe! Now, let's do this.*

**Aggies Muster.** Nope. It's not a typo and you don't need to get your eyes checked. I said it. Aggies Muster. Now is the time.

We have just come off of yet another less than satisfying football season. Rather than expecting to win games, over the years we've become more accustomed to making diagnoses – new players, new coaching staff, still building our program, weak secondary, weak o-line, no defense, young quarterbacks, etcetera, ad nauseum, ad infinitum. A tapestry of these toxic phrases looms over the Aggie family after each near-miss, and the unbridled success of other Big 12 programs only serves as salt in our wound. What happened to us? Where did we go? When will we be in the winner's circle? When will it happen for us?

Never mind that. What keeps us coming back each year? If human instinct tells us to not bet on a losing horse, then why do we continue to dole out dollars on season tickets, tailgate parties and closets full of maroon attire? Why do we brainwash our children from birth and subject them to taking photos like the one above? (Bless their little blonde hearts!) When it's pouring rain, we're backed up to our own 3 yard line with a minute to play and we're down two touchdowns with half of our team injured, what keeps us in those stands? Don't worry. I'm about to tell you.

We stay there in our squishy, rain-soaked tennis shoes and pitiful excuses for rain ponchos because we have a secret. We have something amazing and untouchable about us as Aggies that no one can understand. It's an unstoppable natural force and a seeming ability to conquer almost anything. It's the X-factor that keeps us in those stands. We stay there because we believe we can win. We stay because we know we will win – one day.

So, without further adieu, I will use this platform to call on my fellow Aggies to muster. Muster your spirit in Texas A&M University and everything that it means to you. Muster up your fondest memories of Kyle Field and days when the cannon exploded so many times the smoke never cleared. Muster the kind of emotion that fuels the deafening roar of the 12th Man and shakes the confidence of some of the best teams in the country. Muster the faith you have inside that we can and will be on top again. C'mon, Ags. Now is the time to muster.

After all, we can will ourselves to victory – just the way I willed myself to victory in the bowl picks competition. I'm just sayin'.

Gig'em!

*Lysa '99*



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## inspirational

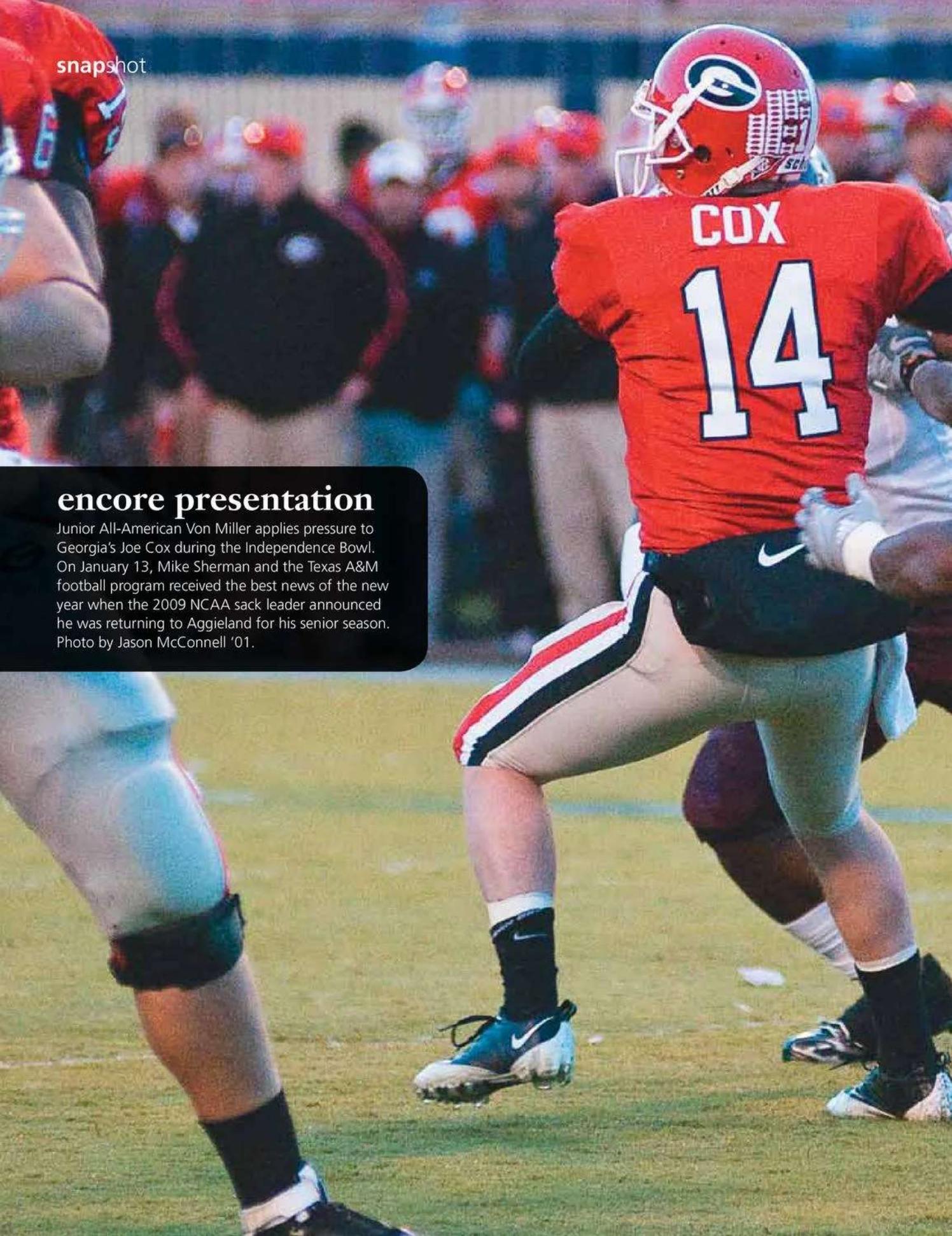
Senior Derrick Roland encourages his team against Nebraska. D-Ro was welcomed back to Reed Arena for the first time since his devastating injury in Washington. The "pop" heard and seen around the country may have prematurely ended his A&M career, however it showed what a true inspiration Roland is not only to his team, but to Aggies everywhere.

Photos by Jason McConnell '01 and AP.

snapshot

## encore presentation

Junior All-American Von Miller applies pressure to Georgia's Joe Cox during the Independence Bowl. On January 13, Mike Sherman and the Texas A&M football program received the best news of the new year when the 2009 NCAA sack leader announced he was returning to Aggieland for his senior season. Photo by Jason McConnell '01.





snapshot

## english lesson

Freshman Ray Turner silenced Mizzou Arena with a steal and a nasty one-handed slam over Kim English. The instant Sports Center highlight helped propel the Aggies to a 77-74 victory over the Tigers, ending the second-longest home winning streak in the nation at 32 games.

Photo by L.G. Patterson, AP





ENGLISH  
24

maroon&white recruiting

## SIGNING DAY IN AGGIELAND

The Texas A&M soccer team inked two recruits on National Signing Day. Sara Ellis will join the team next season while Rachel Lenz has already been training with the Aggies and will play in their spring exhibition matches.

"I'm excited about what these two players bring to our program on many different levels – as soccer players, as students at our great University, and as responsible members of our community," said head coach G Guerrieri. "Rachel and Sara are wonderful individuals who fit perfectly with the high team standards established by the Aggies who've been in our soccer program over the years." **AT**



**saraELLIS** (The Woodlands)

**rachelLENZ** (Round Rock)



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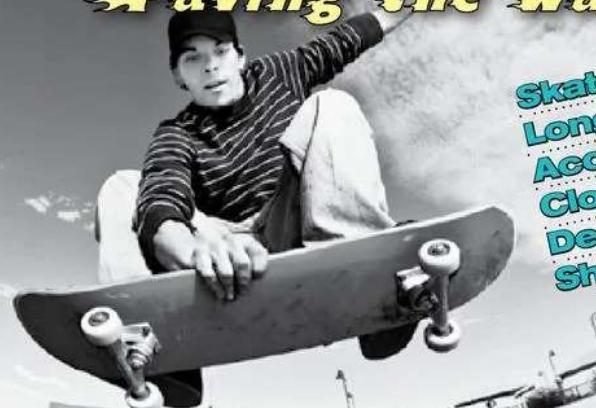
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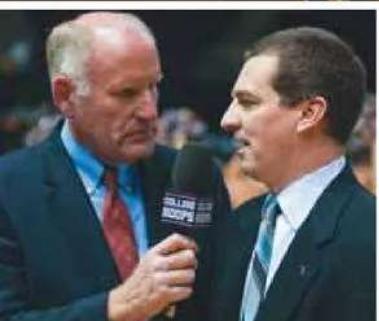
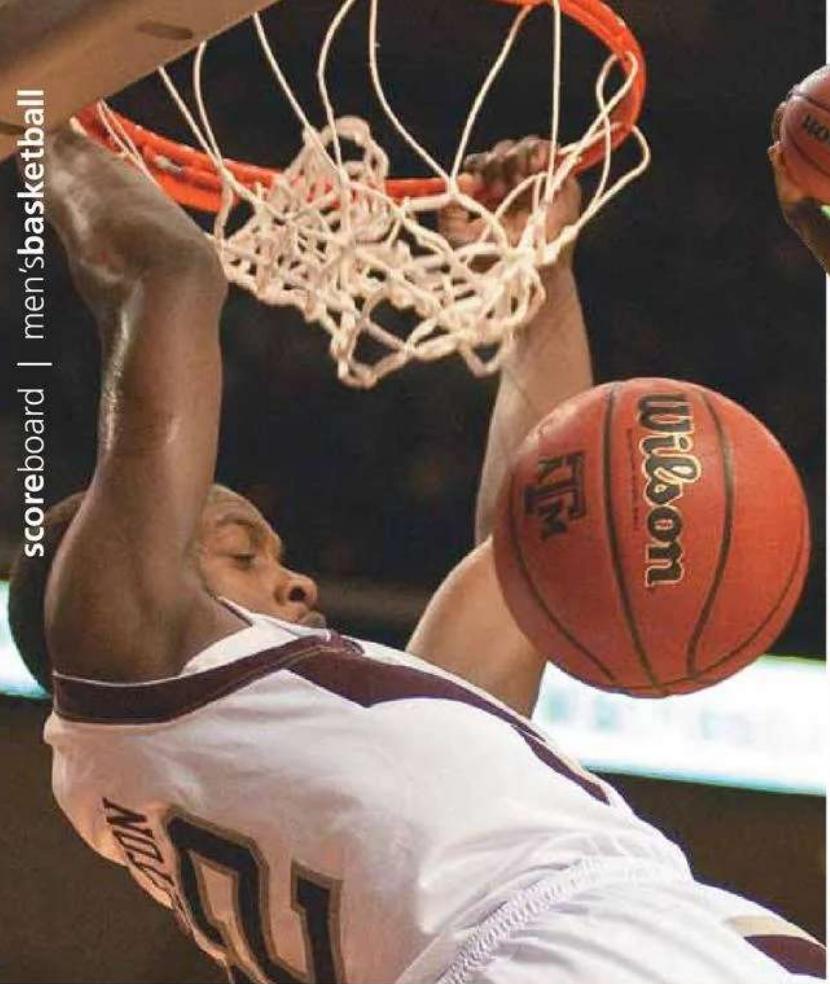
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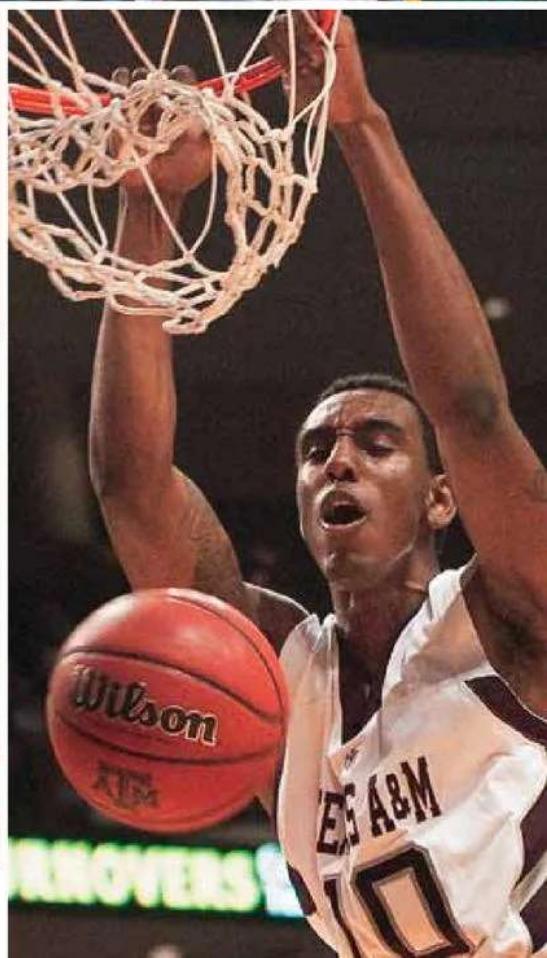
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Just call them the comeback kids. All hopes for another invitation to the Big Dance seemed to be lost when Derrick Roland went down in late December. But just like they have done in each season of Mark Turgeon's tenure, the Aggies have kept fighting no matter how much they have been down or what odds they have been up against. Now, just past the midpoint of the conference schedule, A&M is tied for second place in the Big 12 with a 6-3 record. Meanwhile, the Big 12 is ranked as the toughest conference in the nation. The Aggies aren't a lock to make it to their fifth consecutive NCAA Tournament yet, but this team has shown it has what it takes to compete with anybody. It certainly wouldn't be wise to bet against them.



# dash HARRIS

Twelve questions for the Aggies' sophomore point guard

#### Why did you choose Texas A&M?

The diversity, the way the fans appreciate all the sports here, and the family-type atmosphere that I get from the student body, the staff and my teammates. I don't really miss home too much.

#### What's a typical day in the life of Dash Harris?

Wake up, eat some breakfast and whatnot, head to class, come over to the arena – I always come over early – spend some time in the whirlpool and get some shots up before practice. I like to take a little nap before practice. Go to practice for however long Coach feels like practicing. Then study hall and back to the house to catch ESPN until I fall asleep.

#### What is your most memorable moment from last season?

The Nebraska game. First came my dunk (The Cookie Monster), which was a big play and one of the highlights of my college career so far. And then winning that game on Josh Carter's shot just put the icing on the cake.

#### What advice have you given the freshmen on this year's team?

I've told them that you're going to have good games and you're going to have bad games, so always keep your head up and just move on to the next game if you have a bad one. It's really hard to be consistent as a freshman, especially on both offense and defense. The first priority is for them to get more consistent on defense because that is what we take pride in.

#### How have your skills improved since last season?

I knew I had to step up for my role on this team as the starting point guard. I went home over the summer and worked a lot on my shooting ability. I worked on moving without the ball and shooting off of ball screens. I knew I would have to be more of a scoring threat this year. I also worked on attacking the paint more to get open shots for my teammates. The biggest things are being more aggressive and playing with confidence.

#### How have you stepped up to help fill Derrick Roland's shoes?

Those are some big shoes to fill. D-Ro and I are the same type of defender, but with his height, he's able to defend much bigger guys. I definitely take more pride in my defense now. I just feel like I owe that to him.

#### Has D-Ro been giving you any advice from the bench?

Yes, but surprisingly it's not about defense. I go down to the end of the bench a lot during the course of the game to get his input on things. He tells me what he sees and gives me advice on things to tell the other guys.

#### How did your relationship with Baron Davis come about?

I think I met Baron when I was 8 years old. My dad recruited him when he was working for a recruiting agency. I went to a lot of his high school games, but we really got close while he was at UCLA. Since then I've always been around him. I've worked out with him. When I was little, I went to his camps. Other guys would think I was cheating because I would win awards and I was like his little brother. I've known him most of my life and he has helped me whenever I've needed him.

#### What would make this season a success in your mind?

Winning. I'm always about winning. I definitely want to win the Big 12 Conference first and foremost before we look at the NCAA Tournament.

#### What is your favorite meal?

Meat sauce and spaghetti, but only my mother's.

#### What do you want to accomplish at A&M before your time is up?

I want to win a national championship. That's definitely one of my main goals. I have two high school national championship rings and I want to win at least one on every level.

#### What is your favorite Aggie tradition?

Silver Taps. We went as a team a few months ago and it was an incredible experience. 

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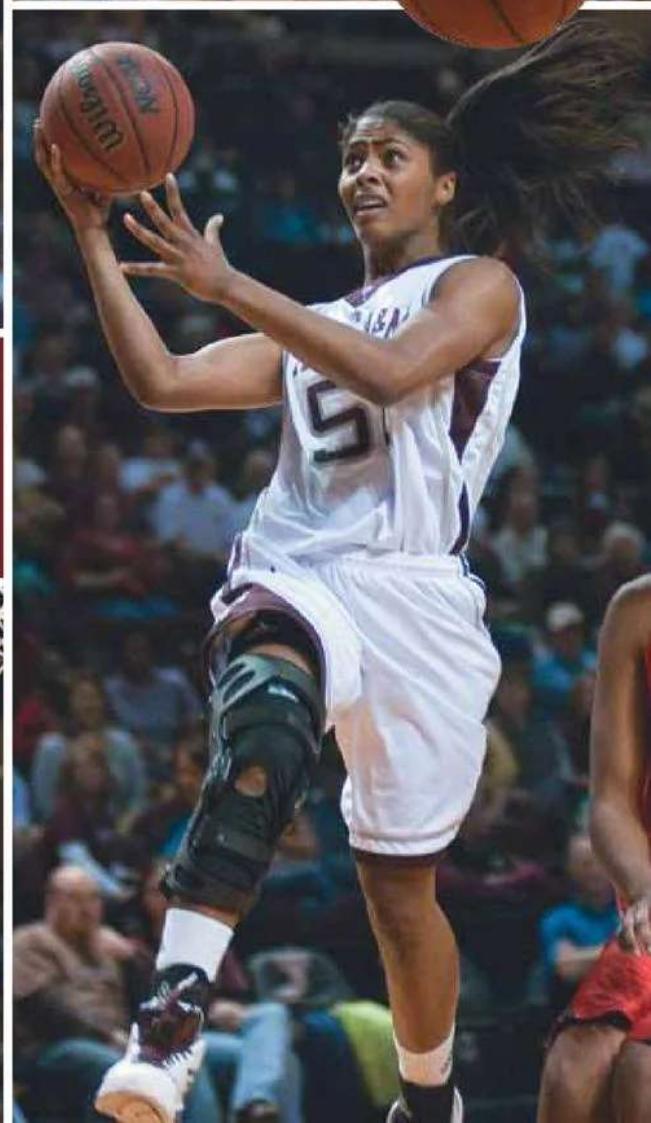
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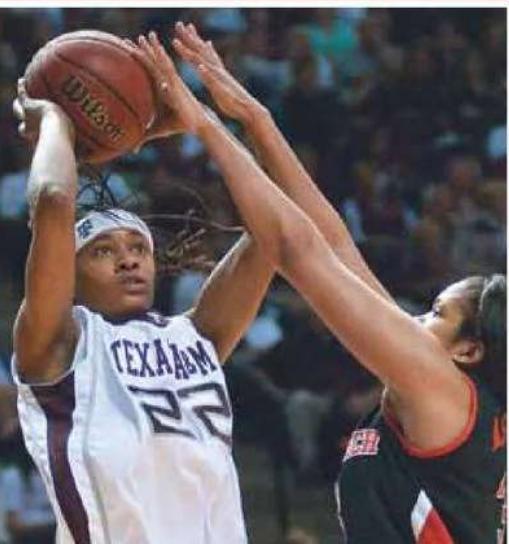
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Playing in the toughest conference in the nation has not been kind to the women's basketball team thus far in 2010. Gary Blair's squad cruised through a challenging non-conference schedule, losing only once. Things looked even promising when they opened Big 12 play with a thrashing of archrival Texas in Austin and Iowa State at home. But losses on the road to No. 13 Oklahoma, No. 14 Baylor, No. 4 Nebraska and at home to No. 15 Oklahoma State have the Aggies in the middle of the pack in the conference race. The bad news is the schedule doesn't get any easier. The good news is that three out of their remaining four ranked opponents will play at Reed Arena, and only unbeaten Nebraska has separated themselves from the rest of the pack.



# damitria BUCHANAN



Nine questions for the Aggies' senior forward

#### How did it feel to be named team captain this season?

It's a really important role and coming in as a freshman, I didn't imagine ever becoming captain. It shows how much I have improved not only as a basketball player, but as a leader as well. It really made me feel good to know that my teammates trusted me and cared for me enough to want me to be their leader. The fact that they voted for me showed me how much I needed to step up and prove that I was ready to be their leader.

#### What do you see different with this year's team compared to your first three seasons?

We have five people on the floor that can score any night. During my first three years, we had two or three scorers that other teams would focus on. This year, everyone on the floor could score in double-digits any night, and that includes the players who are coming off the bench. It makes it harder for other teams to defend us and it makes us more of a threat this year.

#### Do you have any nicknames?

In high school, everyone called me "Dae-Dae." A couple of people here call me that and also "D." When they make fun of me, they call me "Beyonce" because I think I can sing.

#### When you were little, what did you want to be when you grew up?

I wanted to be the first black female concert pianist. A famous classical pianist. When I grew up and realized how hard that would be I changed my career aspirations.

#### Looking back, what are some of your most memorable moments?

Beating Texas six out of seven times since I've been here has to be up there. Also, I would say beating Duke in the Sweet 16 and playing Tennessee in the Elite Eight during my sophomore year. That was a huge experience for me because I looked up to players like Candace Parker and Chante Black and we went up against them. Also that year we played against the US National team. They showed us that we weren't ready yet [laughing], but playing against women that I had grown up watching really helped me become a better player.

#### How have the coaches impacted you?

During my freshman year, I thought they hated me and I couldn't do anything right. They were always so hard on me and I was wondering why I came here. Now I realize they were so hard on me because they had great expectations of me. They made me better. Even those days when I didn't want to get better, they made me push – especially Coach Schaefer. He tends to bring out the monster in everybody. When he pushes you it makes you want to prove to him that you can be better. I tell the team before every game to make Coach Schaefer happy. The happier he is, the better our lives are [laughing]. It has come to the point where I do everything I can to make him happy, because I know how much he expects of us.

#### Do you have any phobias?

I'm scared of bugs. I took an entomology class and we had to collect 25 bugs for a project. I almost passed out. I hate roaches, rodents – basically anything that crawls. I'm not a big animal person, but I do like little dogs. I have a phobia for just about anything that moves around that isn't human.

#### What's your favorite thing about being an Aggie?

The Aggie Spirit. Playing at Reed Arena is like nothing else. You can feel the 12th Man's spirit when you're out on the floor. We have to work hard out there, but you can feel the crowd working hard as well to help us win.

#### What would make this season a success?

Winning the Big 12 – both season and tournament champions – and make it to the Final Four. **A1**

View the full Q&A on [aggielandillustrated.com](http://aggielandillustrated.com) >> NAME: beyonce >> PASSWORD: piano

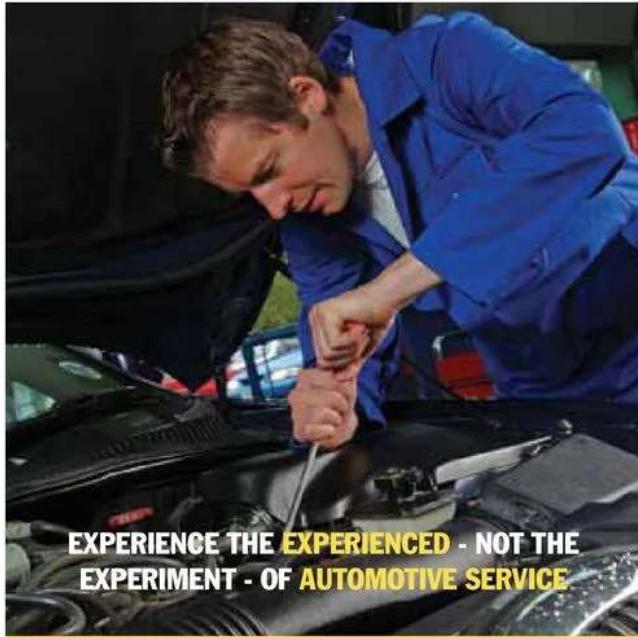


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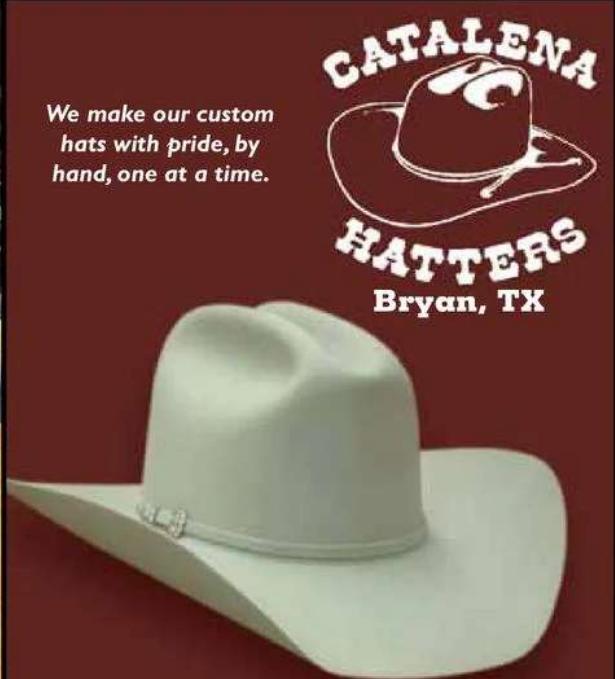
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<i>Feb 7</i> @Tulsa 1 pm @LSU 1 pm W	 11		10 @Texas Tech W 7 pm	11	12 Wisconsin W (Tempe, AZ) 10 am California (AZ) W 12:30 pm	13 @Baylor TBA Nevada (AZ) W 1:30 pm
14 Cal St. W Northridge (AZ) 10 am  Valentine's Day	15 Kansas 8 pm m	16	17 @John m A. Burns Invitational @Sam W Houston 4 pm @Oklahoma W St. 7 pm	18 @Burns Inv. m	19 @Burns Inv. m K-State 11 am San Diego (Las W Vegas) noon Miss. St. 3 pm Oreg. St. 5 pm S. Hall 6:35 pm	20 Texas noon Fresno St. (Las W Vegas) noon S. Hall 2:05 pm Miss. St. 3 pm @Iowa St. 3 pm LA-Mon. 5 pm
21 Wisconsin noon m @UNLV noon w Seton Hall m 12:05 pm LA-Monroe W 12:15 pm Laredo CC m 6 pm	22 @Central W District Invitational Baylor 8 pm w	23 @Central W District Invitational SFA 3 pm SFA 5 pm SFA 6:35 pm m	24 Big 12s TBA @Baylor 8 pm m	25 Big 12s TBA Fordham W (Cathedral City, CA) 5:30 pm Oregon (CA) W 10:30 pm	26 Big 12s TBA Big 12s 10 am St. Edwards m noon UNLV (CA) 5 pm TCU 6 pm W. Kentucky W (Waco) 6 pm San Diego St. W (CA) 7:30 pm	27 Big 12s TBA Big 12s 10 am Stanford (CA) W noon Texas 1 pm @Baylor 1 pm @Colorado W 3 pm
28 Texas A&M w Last Chance @S. Florida W 10 am @LSU 1 pm Texas St. m (Waco) 6 pm	March 1 @UCF W Challenge	2 @UCF W Challenge Oklahoma W 7 pm	3 BYU 4:05 pm m Houston 6:30 W pm Oklahoma St. m 8 pm	4 @Austin m Grand Prix BYU 6 pm W	5 @AGP m N. Colorado W 3 pm BYU 5:15 pm @Illinois 6 pm m Winthrop 6:35 m pm	6 @AGP m Okl. St. 10 am @Oklahoma m 11 am @TCU noon Winthrop 2 pm Monmth. 3 pm N. Col. 5:15 pm @Kansas 7 pm
7 @Ohio St. 1 pm m Winthrop 1:05 m pm	8 TAMU-CC 5 pm W SMU 6 pm W Penn St. 6:35 m pm TAMU-CC 7 pm W	9 Big 12s TBD m Penn St. 6:35 m pm	10 Big 12s TBD m	11 Big 12s TBD m	12 NCAA Diving Big 12s TBD m @S. Highlands m Collegiate NCAAs 10 am Utah St. 3 pm Wright St. W 5 pm Cal 6 pm Wash. St. 6:35 m pm	13 NCAA Diving Big 12s TBD m @SHC N. Mexico St. 10 am NCAAs 10 am Wash. St. 2 pm N. Dakota St. W 3 pm Utah St. 5 pm W

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW? **STEPHEN MCGEE**

BY STEVE HUNT

It has been almost a year since Stephen McGee was selected in the fourth round of the 2009 NFL Draft by the Dallas Cowboys. While some might have hoped the former Texas A&M signal caller would do a little more as an NFL rookie than carry a clipboard, McGee is exactly where he wants to be.

### Time in Aggieland

Obviously, I would have liked to have won a lot more and had things go differently. I was frustrated for five-and-a-half years and it was challenging. I think it made me better. It worked out the way it was supposed to and led me up here to Dallas. So it worked out in the end.

### Playing for Coach Sherman

I thought he did a tremendous job. I know when I left, I knew it would be tough for them to win this year just looking at what kind of talent they had, having to play so many young guys in the Big 12 and having to compete against Oklahoma and Texas. I think he did a hell of a job. A lot of credit goes to him. He did a great job this year of getting those guys ready.

### Getting to play for his favorite team

I can remember going to training camp at St. Edwards down in Austin with my dad and just looking over the fence and thinking, man, this is awesome. It's definitely pretty cool. After you get here and have been through mini-camp and all that stuff, it's just football. The luster of it all kind of wears off and it's time to go to work and just play football.

### Adjustment from college to the NFL

I think not getting as many reps in practice is the biggest deal. Just because there are not as many guys, so you can't do as much in practice. You have to learn without practicing as much as you would like. Having to take steps by watch-

ing and learning is a big adjustment.

### Learning from veteran quarterbacks

It's been awesome, just sitting and learning from two great quarterbacks in Romo and Kitna, guys that have started and been very successful. I have two quarterback coaches that have played the position for many years and have now been coaching for a long time. That's a great opportunity for a young guy like me. It's a perfect situation for me. I continue to learn and will be ready when my time comes.

### Duties as the only rookie quarterback on the team

Well, besides taking part owner in Pappas Brothers Steak House for the rookie dinner, I had to do the sandwiches every Saturday for the quarterbacks. And then, I had to have lunch for them on the plane. I had to do a pick sheet every week and type out info on all the games. Whatever they want – 'Hey rookie, go do this, go get that' – I do that. Every rookie has got to do it. It's kind of a humbling thing. After you've done it for a year, you kind of earn respect from the guys. It's just a part of it up here.

### Perception of the Cowboys in the media

I think all the drama stuff, the glitz and glamour of the Cowboys inside the locker room isn't necessarily true at all. We have good players, good leaders and our team stays focused. We're not a bunch of individuals or selfish like I think many times we're portrayed to be in this locker room. I think that's something that's been misconceived by the public.

### Having a locker next to Martellus Bennett

He's always good for two or three off the wall things every day. He hasn't changed a bit. If anything, he's gotten more glamorous and high-profile.

### A day in the life of an NFL player

I get up here at 6:30 or 7 and don't head home until 5:30. That's a long day with a lot of video, practice and just doing everything that you need to do to be successful. Not only that, you get home and are watching video on your own and doing all the extras that it takes to be successful. This is a full-time job. A lot of people will look at it as playing football on Sunday and that's it. That's not really true. **A1**



## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

### **ACIE LAW**

BY STEVE HUNT



It's safe to say that Acie Law's first few years as a professional basketball player haven't exactly gone the way he had hoped when he was picked 11th in the 2007 NBA Draft. However, despite his struggles in the NBA, his star remains very bright in Aggieland. After being traded twice in 2009, Law is now playing for the Charlotte Bobcats and fighting for a spot in the rotation.

### Time in Aggieland

That was clearly the best time of my life. I have friends from there that I'm still friends with now. My teammates and I still have great friendships as well as with my coaches. The student body and the excitement of the success we had as a basketball team was amazing.

### Helping resurrect the basketball program

That's one of the reasons why I wanted to go there. I looked at that program and knew that if I went there and worked hard, I knew I could help and be a part of something that we could build up to be successful. Antoine Wright started it and I was able to come on and help build on it.

### Retired jersey hanging in Reed Arena

That means a lot. To be the only athlete in Texas A&M history to get his number retired is something special. It's not only me. It should be something for my teammates because the years



I was there, we had great teams. They were a big part of my success – my teammates and the coaching staff.

#### **Being traded from Atlanta to Golden State**

I didn't think Atlanta was a good fit. Coach Woodson and I really didn't see eye-to-eye. So I figured something was going to happen.

#### **Sudden trade to Charlotte in November**

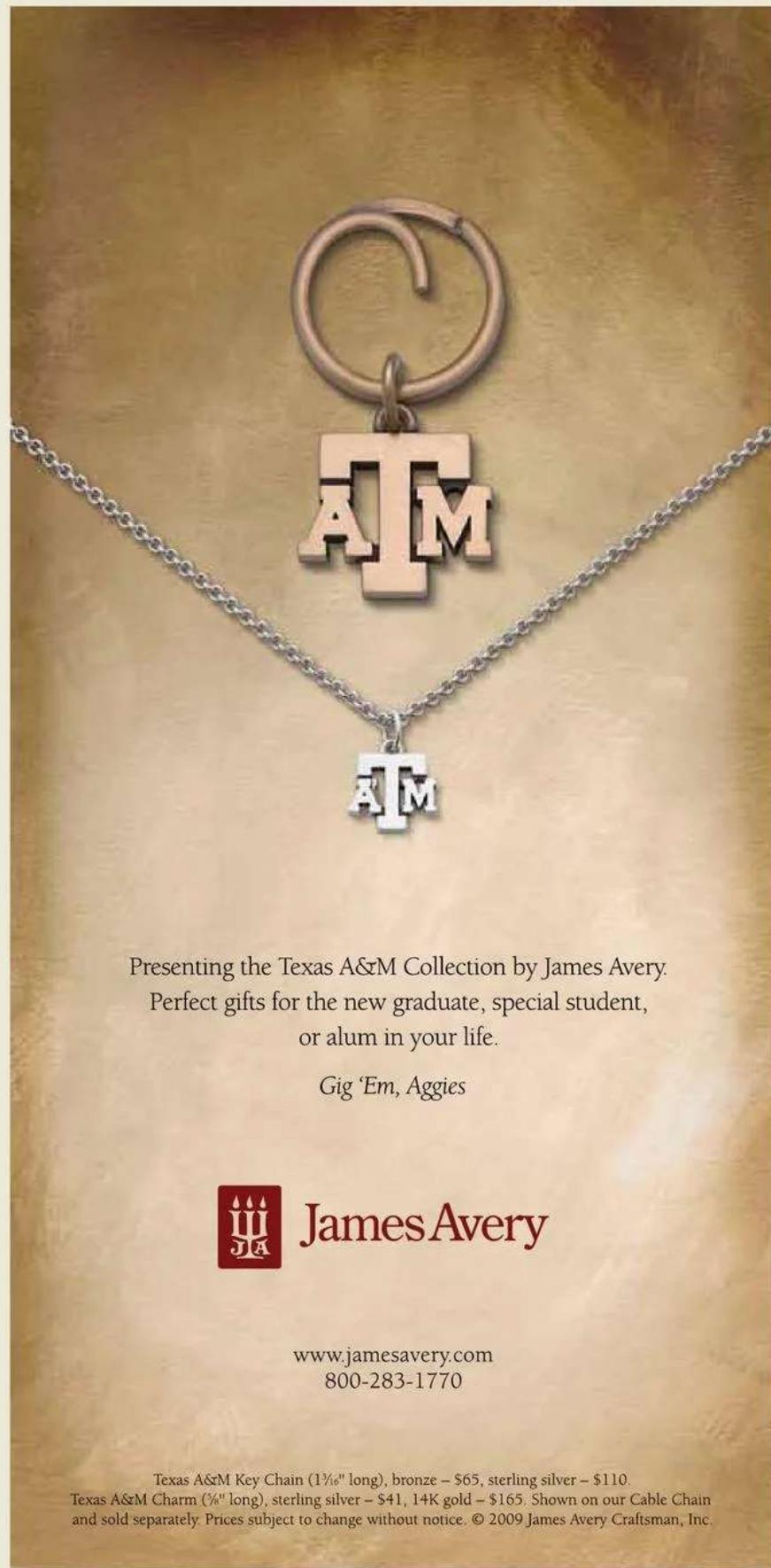
Golden State kind of took me by surprise because that was something that was working out for me. I had worked my way into the rotation and was playing a little bit. But that's the business of it. The numbers matched and they had to get Jack (Stephen Jackson) out of there. So that's how it goes.

#### **Relationship with Stephen Jackson**

When Jack and I first met, we hit it off. We're both from Texas and both Cowboy fans. We've got a lot of things in common. We hang out all the time. I go to his house. My fiancée and his wife always hang out together.

#### **Having success in the NBA**

It's a struggle to have longevity in this league. It's tough. For Antoine to have four or five years, DeAndre (Jordan) going into his second and me going into my third – it's just hard work. It's a blessing to be part of this league. Obviously, we aren't superstars as everybody would want us to be but to be doing what we want to be doing, playing basketball, making a living and providing for our families – it doesn't get any better than that. **AI**



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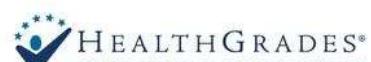
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Cedric Ogbuehi (OL), Nate Askew  
(WR) and Jake Matthews (OL).



# MEET THE NEW CLASS

## OFFENSIVE MVP (TIE)

**Jake Matthews (OL) and Luke Joeckel (OL)**

While it might be rare for a pair of offensive linemen to win this award, it's absolutely fitting in this instance. Matthews and Joeckel come in as the most highly touted members of this year's class and possess the ability to contribute right away.

## RUNNER-UP

**Nate Askew (WR)**

The tall, playmaking wideout was identified early as one of the A&M coaching staff's top targets. After an outstanding senior campaign, Askew was selected to play in the US Army All-American Bowl in San Antonio where he earned a starting position.

## DEFENSIVE MVP

**Toney Hurd, Jr. (CB)**

Hurd comes in as the most highly rated prospect on the defensive side of the ball. The tough, physical cornerback held his own in the Under Armour All-American game in January and should

AI brings you a closer look at the newest Fightin' Texas Aggies, as well as our signing day awards

BY JEREMY KSIONDA '04

be able to contribute right away for the Aggies.

## RUNNER-UP

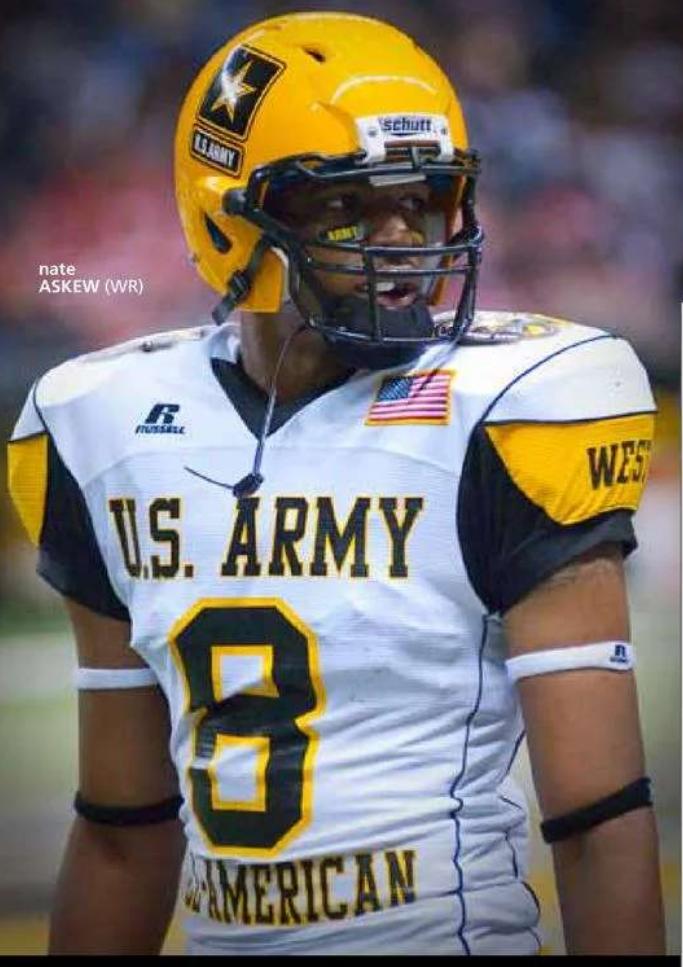
**Jonathan Mathis (DL)**

Mathis was nearly named MVP of the defenders because of his ability to fill such a huge need for the Aggies this fall. The Blinn College transfer comes in as a perfect nose tackle in Tim DeRuyter's new 3-4 scheme.

## SLEEPER AWARD

**Malcome Kennedy (WR)**

It's not really fair to label Kennedy as a "sleeper" prospect. After all, he's the lone member of the signing class to win a state championship this season and finished 2008 as state runner-up. Still, Kennedy spent much of his high school career in Longhorn-signee Traylon Shead's shadow. Make no mistake, however – Kennedy is a playmaker in every sense of the word and brings outstanding leadership qualities and the athleticism to help the Aggies at a number of positions.



nate  
ASKEW (WR)



**nate ASKEW** Wr  
San Antonio, Texas (Madison)  
HT: 6-4 WT: 213

**STATS:**

2008: 51 catches for 856 yards (16.8 average) and 8 touchdowns  
2009: 40 catches for 919 yards and 7 touchdowns; 2 Punt Return touchdowns

**HONORS:**

2009: 5A All-State Honorable Mention (AP); 26-5A First Team All-District; 5A First Team All-Area (San Antonio Express-News); Army All-American

**NOTES & QUOTES:**

Madison HS Coach Jim Streety on Nate Askew...

*"He's a tremendous athlete with great leaping ability and great hands. He turned into a real hard worker and a great leader for our team. My only regret is not being able to get the ball in his hands as much as we needed, and wanted to. In a perfect world, even though we were a running team, he should have caught 60 or 70 balls this year. We just weren't able to make it happen. Nate never complained about how many touches he was getting. He has a really good team attitude. I'm really proud of how much he's matured in the last year or so."*

**NOTABLE:**

Chose Texas A&M over offers from Arkansas, Florida State, Oklahoma State and Texas Tech.



**garrett GRAMLING** o/

Denton, Texas (Ryan)

HT: 6-6 WT: 325

**STATS:**

2008: 1 sack allowed all season, 23 pancakes, 30 knockdowns; graded 90 percent

2009: Graded 94 percent, 43 pancakes, no sacks allowed

**HONORS:**

2009: 4A First Team All-State (AP); 5-4A First Team All-District; 3 star recruit by ESPN.com

**NOTES & QUOTES:**

Denton Ryan Coach Joey Florence on Garrett Gramling...

*"Garrett is one the best offensive linemen I've coached. He's a 6-6, 320-pound kid that's very athletic. He has great feet and is a very intelligent kid. That's what you want when you're looking for lineman. I think A&M is getting a great one. He's the best offensive lineman that I've ever coached."*

**NOTABLE:**

Chose Texas A&M over offers from Arkansas, Nebraska and Texas Tech.



**nehemiah HICKS** ath

San Antonio, Texas (Madison)

HT: 6-4 WT: 235

**STATS:**

2009: 46 tackles (20 solo), 18 tackles for loss, 3 sacks, 2 blocked kicks, 1 fumble recovery, 9 QB pressures, 2 pass break-ups

**HONORS:**

2009: 25-4A First Team All-District Offense and Defense; First Team All-Centex Defensive End (Austin American Statesman)

**NOTES & QUOTES:**

Nehemiah Hicks...

*"It really came down to OU and A&M. I went up and stayed in Norman and I liked it okay but I knew it was going to be hard on my family and it was important to me for them to get a chance to see me play. Plus, I felt like I had a better chance to start early at A&M. And Coach Sherman was just a cool, down to earth guy."*

**NOTABLE:**

Chose Texas A&M over offers from Oklahoma, Oklahoma State and Texas Tech.



## clayHONEYCUTT qb

Dickinson, Texas (Dickinson)

HT: 6-2 WT: 185

### STATS:

2008: 85-of-181 for 1,216 passing yards (47.0 Completion Percentage), 10 touchdowns, 4 interceptions

2009: 119-of-219 for 1,504 passing yards (54.3 Completion Percentage), with 9 touchdowns and 11 Interceptions, rushed for 934 yards (5.7 average) and 13 touchdowns

### HONORS:

2009: 24-5A First Team All-District (AP); 3 star recruit by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; Ranked 66th among quarterbacks nationally by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.

### NOTES & QUOTES:

Clay Honeycutt...

*"The thing I'm looking forward to the most, I think, is just the opportunity to come in and learn and receive coaching from some of the best coaches out there, who knows how to help you prepare for the next level. Regardless of what position it is, I'm just looking forward to seeing how far I can go and how good I can become with such good instructors."*

### NOTABLE:

Enrolled in January and will go through spring drills with the Aggies. His father, Lynn Honeycutt, lettered at Texas A&M as a defensive back in 1978 and 1979.



## toneyHURD JR cb

Missouri City, Texas (FB Marshall)

HT: 5-9 WT: 184

### STATS:

2008: 87 tackles (52 unassisted), 1 fumble recovery, 5 interceptions, 16 pass breakups,

2009: 5 interceptions

### HONORS:

2009: Under Armour All-American; Four star recruit by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; Ranked 125th in ESPNU Top 150; Ranked 10th among cornerbacks nationally by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.

### NOTES & QUOTES:

Marshall Coach Darryl Phipps on Toney Hurd, Jr...

*"Toney has a great burst to the ball. He's got dynamite in his hip pocket. When he hits you, you're going to feel it. He's a beast in the weight room and is very committed to it. He's taking honors curriculum in school, and he's going to graduate number three in his class out of 420 students. Across the board, not just athletically, he's done everything you need to do to be a Division I football player. I think the thing that really puts him over the top is that he really wants to be a Division I player and excel at it."*

### NOTABLE:

Chose Texas A&M over offers from Auburn, Notre Dame, Oregon, Tennessee and Oklahoma.



## brandonJACKSON dt

Shreveport, Louisiana (Evangel Christian)

HT: 6-4 WT: 252

### STATS:

2008: 113 tackles, 15 tackles for loss, 6 sacks, 1 fumble recovery

2009: 53 tackles, 4 sacks, 2 fumble recoveries, 1 safety

### HONORS:

2009: 2A All-State Honorable Mention (LSWA); Played on Evangel Christian team that won Louisiana 2A State Championship

### NOTES & QUOTES:

Al says...

*"Brandon Jackson weathered the storm of several SEC programs down the stretch to stay firm in his commitment to Texas A&M. Brandon describes himself as a "versatile" player who can man all three spots along A&M's new three man front under new defensive coordinator Tim DeRuyter."*

### NOTABLE:

Chose Texas A&M over offers from SEC programs Alabama, LSU, Tennessee and Arkansas.



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**lukeJOECKEL ol**  
Arlington, Texas (Arlington)  
HT: 6-6 WT: 280

**STATS:**

2008: Anchor on offensive line that averaged 422.9 yards per game  
2009: Anchor on offensive line that averaged 474.8 yards per game

**HONORS:**

2008: Fort Worth Star-Telegram Super Team (First Team); 4-5A First Team All-District  
2009: 5A Second Team All-State (AP); Fort Worth Star-Telegram First Team Super Team; First Team All-Dallas Area (Dallas Morning News); Ranked 83rd in ESPNU Top 150; District 4-5A First Team All-District; 4 star recruit by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; Ranked 6th among offensive tackles nationally by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; Under Armour All-American; SuperPrep Southwest Team, SuperPrep All-American, Rivals.com All-American

**NOTES & QUOTES:**

Luke Joeckel...

*"I'm looking forward to getting bigger and stronger, and to competing. I'm going into spring ball with the mindset that I'm competing for a starting spot. The coaches said that I've got a good chance if I work hard, so I'm going to work as hard as I can."*

**NOTABLE:**

Enrolled in January and will go through spring drills with the Aggies. Chose Texas A&M over offers from Alabama, LSU, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Arkansas, UCLA and Texas Tech.



**mattJOECKEL qb**  
Arlington, Texas (Arlington)  
HT: 6-4 WT: 220

**STATS:**

2008: 328 rushing yards and 9 touchdowns, 209-of-363 for 3,017 yards passing (57.6 completion percentage), 29 touchdowns, 6 interceptions  
2009: 733 rushing yard and 12 touchdowns, 235-of-354 for 3,145 passing yards (66.4 completion percentage), 40 touchdowns and 6 interceptions

**HONORS:**

2008: 5A Honorable Mention All-State (TSWA); District 4-5A Co-Most Valuable Player  
SuperPrep Southwest Team  
2009: District 4-5A Offensive Player of the Year; 3 star recruit by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; Ranked 54th among quarterbacks nationally by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.

**NOTES & QUOTES:**

Matt Joeckel...

*"I'm ready to show what I have. I'm ready to show that I'm a hard worker and that I'm ready and willing to get out there and compete. That's what A&M is all about – competing -- and that's what I'm ready for. I'm looking forward to just playing football ... just strapping on the pads and getting after it."*

**NOTABLE:**

Enrolled in January and will go through spring drills with the Aggies. Chose Texas A&M over offers from Arkansas and Texas Tech.



**d.j.JONES rb**  
Denison, Texas (Denison)  
HT: 5-11 WT: 183

**STATS:**

2008: 2,646 rushing yards (11.0 average) and 35 touchdowns; 12 catches for 219 yards and 3 touchdowns; 1 touchdown on kickoff return  
2009: 267 carries for 2,247 yards (8.4 average) and 30 touchdowns, 29 catches for 419 yards and 4 touchdowns

**HONORS:**

2008: 4A First Team All-State (AP & TSWA); All-Texomaland (Herald-Democrat)  
2009 4A Second Team All-State (AP); All-Texomaland (Herald-Democrat); 9-4A First Team All-District; 3 star recruit by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; Ranked 24th among running backs nationally by ESPN.com

**NOTES & QUOTES:**

Denison Coach Cody White on D.J. Jones...

*"D.J. is an extremely physical runner, but also has enough speed to get to the outside. His blocking needs to be developed a little better. That's not his forte right now, but he's perfectly capable of it. He's an extremely fierce competitor. He's not the tall Eric Dickerson-type, but he's bigger than some of the scat backs some teams are using. He's 5-10, 215-pounds and that is probably where he'll play at in college. He's just unbelievably strong, with pretty good vision and great feet. And the biggest thing is that he's very, very physical."*

**NOTABLE:**

Chose Texas A&M over offers from Florida, Arkansas and Texas Tech.





**shepKLINKE** o/

Katy, Texas (Katy)

HT: 6-7 WT: 290

#### HONORS:

2009: First Team All-Greater Houston (Houston Chronicle); 17-5A First Team All-District; 3 star recruit by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; Ranked 12th nationally among guards by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; PARADE All-American; SuperPrep Southwest Team

#### NOTES & QUOTES:

Shep Klinke...

*"I think I'm most looking forward to the competition. There were times in high school when it was just a complete mismatch. I'm ready for a challenge. You know, all the websites can say you're this or that, but you never know until you actually get out there and play. Our coaches at Katy are second to none, and they've taught us great fundamentals and how to play the game with intensity and with a desire to win. I'm looking forward to carrying that to the next level."*

#### NOTABLE:

Chose Texas A&M over Kentucky.



**misterJONES** rb

Littleton, Colorado (Littleton)

HT: 6-2 WT: 205

#### STATS:

2008: 951 rushing yards (12.0 average) and 12 touchdowns, 95 yard long run

2009: 1,317 rushing yards (8.1 average) and 18 touchdowns

#### HONORS:

2009: 4A First Team All-State in Colorado (AP); First Team All-Colorado (AP); 3 star recruit by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; Ranked 102nd among running backs nationally by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; SuperPrep Midlands Team

#### NOTES & QUOTES

Littleton Coach Chad Koepke on Mister Jones...

*"He's a big physical back that has exceptional speed for his size. He's 6-2 200, that runs an eleven flat 100 meter dash electrically timed. He's got a unique combination of size and speed."*

#### NOTABLE:

Chose Texas A&M over offers from Colorado and Kansas.



**malcomeKENNEDY** wr

Cayuga, Texas (Cayuga)

HT: 6-0 WT: 195

#### STATS:

2008: 47 catches for 763 yards and 10 touchdowns; 300 rushing yards and 2 touchdowns, 7 Interceptions on defense

2009: 207 carries for 2,356 yards (11.4 Average) and 24 Touchdowns, 1,516 passing yards with 22 Touchdowns and 7 Interceptions, 6 Interceptions on defense

#### HONORS:

2008: 1A Second Team All-State (TSWA)

2009: 1A All-State Honorable Mention (AP); District 20-1A Offensive MVP; 3 star recruit by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; Ranked 68th among wide receivers nationally by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.

#### NOTES & QUOTES:

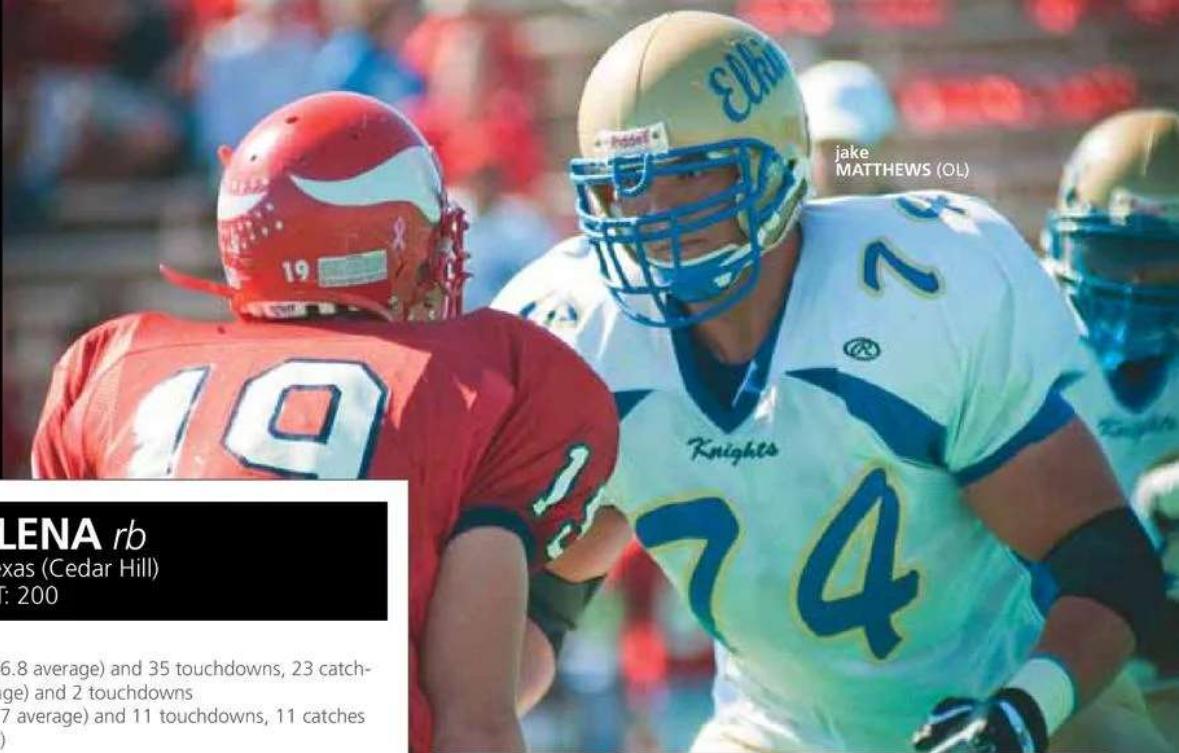
Cayuga Coach Tommy Allison on Malcome Kennedy...

*"I think it's a great fit. He's 6-0, 200 pounds and he's bench pressing 330 pounds. He has the ability if you split him out wide, he can go up and get it. But he's also very shifty so if you put him in the slot, he can catch the ball in space and make people miss. There are lots of areas where A&M can move him to different spots and use him in the motion schemes, where they can hand him the ball. With what A&M does, and Malcome does, he's just a perfect fit that can fall into many different areas."*

#### NOTABLE:

Chose Texas A&M over offers from TCU, Missouri and Stanford.





jake  
MATTHEWS (OL)



**ben MALENA rb**  
Cedar Hill, Texas (Cedar Hill)  
HT: 5-10 WT: 200

**STATS:**

2008: 2,202 yards rushing (6.8 average) and 35 touchdowns, 23 catches for 307 yards (13.3 average) and 2 touchdowns

2009: 722 yards rushing (6.7 average) and 11 touchdowns, 11 catches for 161 yards (14.6 average)

**HONORS:**

2008: 5A Second Team All-State (TSWA); Second Team All-Dallas Area (Dallas Morning News); District 7-5A Offensive Most Valuable Player  
2009: 7-5A First Team All-District; 3 star recruit by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; Ranked 33rd among running backs nationally by ESPN.com

**NOTES & QUOTES:**

Ben Malena...

*"The opportunity to go to college is once in a lifetime. To have the opportunity to get it paid for by the best school in Texas is just a tremendous honor. You have no choice but to feel like a winner. My siblings, everyone in my family, is proud of me. I don't want to let anyone down. This is an opportunity that means everything to me."*

**NOTABLE:**

Chose Texas A&M over offers from Kansas and Texas Tech.



**jake MATTHEWS ol**  
Missouri City, Texas (Elkins)  
HT: 6-5 WT: 285

**HONORS:**

2009: 5A All-State Honorable Mention (AP); First Team All-Greater Houston (Houston Chronicle); 23-5A First Team All-District; Ranked 90th in ESPNU Top 150; Army All-American; 4 star recruit by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; Ranked 7th among offensive tackles nationally by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; PARADE All-American; Second Team USA Today All-American; SuperPrep Southwest Team, SuperPrep All-American, Rivals.com All-American

**NOTES & QUOTES:**

Elkins Coach Robert Crivellari on Jake Matthews...

*"I think he uses his hands, and feet really well. Just his knowledge of what is going on the field is just incredible. He sees things and picks it up quickly and reacts. The technique that he uses is some of the best I've ever had the opportunity to coach." (On how Matthew's "football family" and his rapid development at the tackle position) "There's a lot of good gene's there with Jake's family history. What makes Jake unique is that he's only played on the offensive line for three years. We converted him to the o-line his sophomore year. He played quarterback his freshman year, so that speaks about the type of athleticism he has. He just started growing and became one of our biggest kids in the program. We saw that he was going to end up playing offensive line after that. We made the move and he picked it up quickly. For him to be as technically sound and be able to play the position the way he does after only playing there for three years is just incredible. It's a credit to him and his understanding of the game."*

**NOTABLE:**

His brother, Kevin, was a two-year starter at offensive center for the Aggies from 2008-09.

His father, Bruce, was inducted into the NFL Hall of Fame in 2007 after an illustrious 19-year career with the Houston Oilers and Tennessee Titans.

Chose Texas A&M over offers from Oklahoma, Alabama, Arkansas, Oregon, Texas, Texas Tech, USC and Stanford.



**jonathan MATHIS dt**  
Houston, Texas (Westfield/Blinn JC)  
HT: 6-3 WT: 292

**STATS:**

2008: 37 tackles (16 unassisted), 5 tackles for loss, 3 sacks

2009: 34 tackles (11 unassisted), 9 tackles for loss

**HONORS:**

SuperPrep Juco 100

**NOTES & QUOTES:**

Blinn Coach Brad Franchione on Jonathan Mathis...

*"He's a very disciplined individual who doesn't draw much attention to himself verbally. He takes care of business in the classroom and does a tremendous job on the practice field. He plays hard every play and gives great effort. I'd love to have a team full of guys like Jonathan Mathis because you wouldn't have any headaches. He does everything really well and is a smart kid that understands how to take care of the finer details that some young men overlook. There's not a doubt in my mind that he'll be a graduate of Texas A&M and I fully expect to see him do great things for that program."*

**NOTABLE:**

Chose Texas A&M over offers from Arkansas, Houston, Arizona and Texas Tech.

## tramoneMICKENS cb

Dallas, Texas (Lincoln)

HT: 5-11

WT: 170

### STATS:

2009: 72 tackles, 8 interceptions, 2 interception returns for touchdowns

### NOTES & QUOTES:

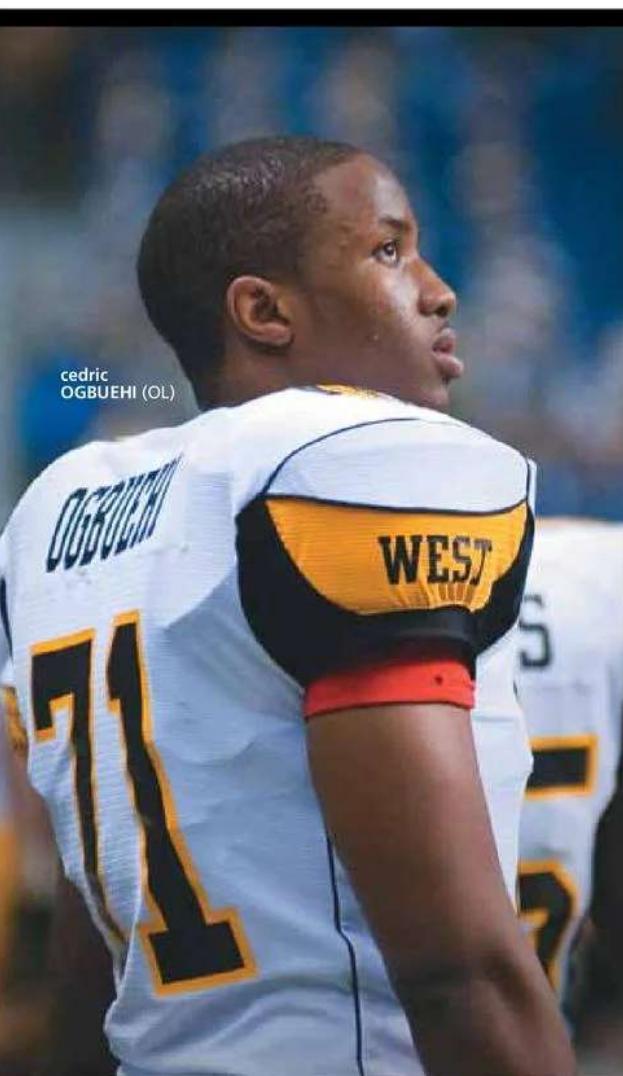
Billy Liucci says...

*"Tramone spent most of his high school career focusing his attention on track, where he was a regional qualifier in the 200-meters. On the gridiron, Mickens enjoyed a breakout senior season, finishing with 64 tackles and an eye-catching 8 interceptions. At 5-11, 180, Tramone is not only a smooth, natural cover man who can turn and run with anyone, he's also a good tackler and has definitely has the mindset and confidence to be a successful player out on the island."*

### NOTABLE:

Track and field standout with personal bests of 10.5 in the 100-meter dash and 21.7 in the 200-meter dash as a junior. Also ran a leg on Lincoln's sprint relay.

He will "double-sign" with Navarro Junior College in Corsicana, Texas.



cedric  
OGBUEHI (OL)



## damontreMOORE de

Rowlett, Texas (Rowlett)

HT: 6-6 WT: 225

### STATS:

2008: 41 tackles

2009: 66 tackles, 6 sacks, 2 safeties

### HONORS:

2009: 5A All-State Honorable Mention (AP); First Team All-Dallas Area (Dallas Morning News); 10-5A Second Team All-District; 3 star recruit by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; Ranked 48th nationally among defensive ends by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; Max Emfinger All-American; SuperPrep Southwest Team

### NOTES & QUOTES:

Damontre Moore...

*"For me, A&M was like a home away from home. Some coaches at other schools just talk about themselves and try to sell you on everything. But with A&M they kept it real with me and treated me like I was more than just a prospect. They treated me like a human being and took time to get to know me. It was just really like a home environment and I knew it was right for me."*

### NOTABLE:

Chose Texas A&M over offers from Oklahoma State and Baylor.



## cedricOGBUEHI ol

Allen, Texas (Allen)

HT: 6-5 WT: 270

### STATS:

2008: 45 pancakes, 52 knockdowns; Graded 91 percent; Best blocker for team that averaged 36.1 points and 225 rushing yards per game; Recorded 45 pancake blocks and 52 knockdowns

2009: Helped lead the way for team that averaged 466.3 yards per game, graded out at 91%, 40 pancake blocks and 42 knockdowns, allowed 1 sack

### HONORS:

2008: 5A First Team All-State (AP); 5A Second Team All-State (TSWA); Played for 5A Division One State Championship team at Allen 2009; 5A Second Team All-State (AP); 8-5A First Team All-District (Unanimous Selection); First Team All-Dallas Area (Dallas Morning News); Army All-American

### NOTES & QUOTES:

Allen Coach Tom Westerberg on Cedric Ogbuehi...

*"I think there's nothing but upside for Cedric. He's a great, hardworking kid, and I know he'll come in to A&M and do tremendous things. He has a frame that can put on a lot more weight and, with his arm reach, I think you'll see tremendous things out of him. The key for Cedric is he can really run for a big kid. There are some highlights you can see where he really gets out and runs full speed. He can flat go for a big kid."*

### NOTABLE:

Ogbuehi is the third player from Allen High School to join the Aggies during the Mike Sherman (others are Uzoma Nwachukwu and Steven Terrell).

Chose Texas A&M over offers from Nebraska, Kansas, Texas Tech and Oklahoma State.



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domonique  
PATTERSON (LB)



## domoniquePATTERSON lb

Dallas, Texas (Skyline)  
HT: 6-0 WT: 210

### STATS:

2008: 121 tackles, 15 tackles for loss, 11 sacks, 3 interceptions, 2 for a touchdown

### HONORS:

2008: First team all-district linebacker  
2009: 5A All-State Honorable Mention (AP); Second Team All-Dallas Area (Dallas Morning News); 9-5A First Team All-District; Max Emfinger All-American

### NOTES & QUOTES:

Domonique Patterson...

*"I'm really ready to just get things going. You hear about college and how hard things are. I'm ready to get my feet wet, get to class and just tackle the next big thing in front of me. I'm not afraid to face any hard challenges."*

### NOTABLE:

Chose Texas A&M over offers from Stanford and Colorado.



## ivanROBINSON dt

Longville, Louisiana (South Beauregard)  
HT: 6-4 WT: 252

### STATS:

2008: 96 tackles, 10 tackles for loss, 2 sacks, 1 forced fumble, 1 fumble recovery  
2009: 94 tackles, 21 tackles for loss, 9 Sacks, 2 forced fumbles, 1 fumble recovery

### HONORS:

2008: First team All-Area (Beauregard Daily News); 4-2A Second Team All-District, Second Team All-District in Basketball (2008-09)  
2009: First team All-Area (Beauregard Daily News); 4-2A Second Team All-District; SuperPrep Southwest Team, SuperPrep All-American

### NOTES & QUOTES:

South Beauregard Coach Shawn Demeritt on Robinson...

*"First of all, Ivan is a good young man. He's the type of kid you want in your program. He brings some intangibles to the table that some people don't possess. When you're 6-4, 252-pounds and can run like he can, you just don't find that in many defensive linemen. Ivan really uses his hands well, and he runs extremely well. You're talking about a kid who runs a high 4.7 forty-yard dash. At 252 pounds, that's pretty impressive. He was the first leg on the 4 x 100 relay for us, and that should tell you a little bit about how well he can move."*

### NOTABLE:

Chose Texas A&M over offers from LSU, Tennessee and Mississippi.



## jameillSHOWERS qb

Killeen, Texas (Shoemaker)  
HT: 6-1 WT: 200

### STATS:

2008: 117-of-230 for 2,150 yards passing, 22 touchdowns, 8 interceptions; 513 yards rushing

### HONORS:

2008: 5A Honorable Mention All-State (TSWA)  
2009: 3 star recruit by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; Ranked 38th among quarterbacks nationally by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; SuperPrep Southwest Team

### NOTES & QUOTES:

Shoemaker Coach Ken Gray on Jameill Showers...

*"He's an excellent decision maker with a strong arm. He's got all the physical attributes that you would want in a quarterback. Strong arm, size, strength, speed. But his biggest asset is his decision making. He's a real student of the game that always knows what to do with the ball."*

### NOTABLE:

Missed the 2009 football season due to an injury.

Enrolled in January and will go through spring drills with the Aggies.

Chose Texas A&M over offers from Purdue and Houston.



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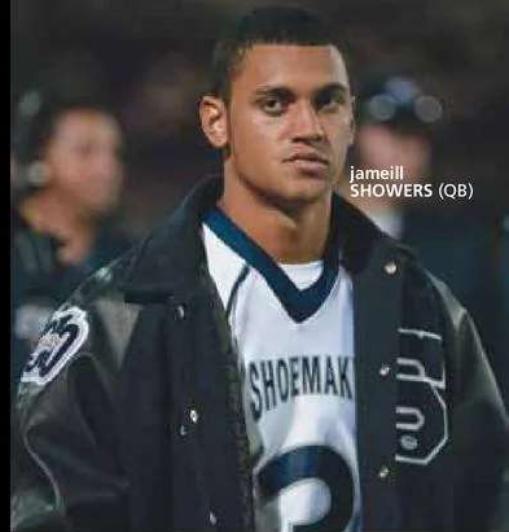
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jameill  
SHOWERS (QB)



**gavin STANSBURY** de  
Franklin, Louisiana (Franklin)  
HT: 6-3 WT: 235

#### STATS:

2008: 96 tackles, 16 tackles for loss, 8 sacks, 3 fumble recoveries  
2009: 65 tackles, 12 sacks

#### HONORS:

2008: 6-3A First Team All-District  
2009: 6-3A First Team All-District; Max Emfinger All-American, SuperPrep Southwest Team

#### NOTES & QUOTES:

Gavin Stansbury...

"It's going to feel great to officially be an Aggie. I feel like I'm part of Texas A&M already, but to sign and be a part of the Aggie family will be great. Ever since I committed, I've told anyone that called that I'm 'all A&M' so they pretty much leave me alone now. I guess they got the message."

#### NOTABLE:

Chose Texas A&M over offers from Arkansas and Mississippi.



**LeKendrick WILLIAMS** ath  
Sharpstown, Texas (Sharpstown)  
HT: 5-9 WT: 175

#### STATS:

2008: 6 kickoff returns for touchdown; 5 punt returns for touchdown; 1 defensive touchdown

#### HONORS:

2009: 21-4A First Team All-District; 3 star recruit by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; Ranked 134th among athletes nationally by ESPN.com / Scouts Inc.; Max Emfinger All-American

#### NOTES & QUOTES:

Sharpstown Coach Gary Gutierrez on Williams...

"He's a threat every time he touches the ball. He's outstanding. His field vision, his athleticism, everything is great. He's the real deal. He's got one of the best return averages in Houston and in the state. He scored 11 or 12 touchdowns in two years on returns alone. His first step is pretty explosive and his field vision is excellent."

#### NOTABLE:

Chose Texas A&M over Houston. **AI**



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# BRINGING BACK THE CREW

BY JEREMY KSIONDA '04

Big things are on the horizon for the Texas A&M defense. The new year started off with a bang when Von Miller, the NCAA's sack leader last season, announced he would be returning to Aggieland for his senior year. Just one week later, Mike Sherman introduced the Aggie faithful to their new defensive coordinator and assistant head coach, Tim DeRuyter, formerly of Air Force. For a defense that finished fifteen places away from last in 2009, the impact of Miller and DeRuyter will certainly be welcomed.

A&M's defensive outlook turned from question marks to exclamation points with Miller's return. His 17.5 sacks, 21.5 tackles for loss and All-American accolades make him the most decorated returning defender since Dat Nguyen. For a defense that hasn't had the luxury of veteran leadership or experienced difference makers in over a decade, the impact of Miller's return simply cannot be overstated.

While Miller will make his presence felt on the field, the arrival of DeRuyter will be equally as important on the sidelines. After finishing 2009 with the one of the nation's top ranked defenses at Air Force, DeRuyter was hand-picked by Sherman to bring back the Wrecking Crew defense in short order.

"I like his aggressive, attacking style of defense," Sherman



## theDERUYTERfile

<b>Full Name:</b>	Tim DeRuyter (da-ROOT-er)
<b>Birthdate:</b>	Jan. 3, 1963
<b>Birthplace:</b>	Long Beach, California
<b>Marital Status:</b>	Married to the former Kara Koblensky
<b>Children:</b>	Jake, Christina
<b>Education:</b>	St. John Bosco High School in Bellflower, CA (1981) Air Force Academy (1985) Regis University (1992, MBA)

### RESUME

2010-present	Texas A&M (Asst. Head Coach/Def. Coordinator)
2008-09	Air Force Academy (Assoc. Coach/Def. Coor./Safeties)
2007	Air Force Academy (Def. Coor./Safeties)
2005-06	Nevada (Co-Def. Coor./Safeties & Pass Defense)
2002-04	Ohio (Def. Coor./Secondary)
1999-2001	Navy (Secondary)
1995-98	Ohio (Def. Coord./Secondary)
1991-94	Air Force (JV/Varsity Asst.)

### 2009 NCAA RANKINGS: AIR FORCE ACADEMY

47th NCAA	RUSH DEFENSE, 134 yards per game
5th NCAA	PASS DEFENSE, 154.31 yards per game
11th NCAA	TOTAL DEFENSE, 288.31
10th NCAA	SCORING DEFENSE, 15.69 pts per game
7th NCAA	PASSES INTERCEPTED, 20
15th NCAA	FUMBLES RECOVERED, 14
5th NCAA	TURNOVERS GAINED, 34
4th NCAA	FIRST DOWNS ALLOWED, 14.62
13th NCAA	DEFENSE 3rd DOWN EFFICIENCY, 30.86

said. "He has a great history of success and has shown great ability to teach and to lead young men."

DeRuyter served the last three years as the defensive coordinator and safeties coach for the Falcons. He added the title of associate coach in 2008 and 2009 at the Colorado Springs campus. This past season, the Air Force defense finished 11th in the NCAA in total defense allowing 288.31 yards per game. Their pass defense was ranked 5th in the country allowing only 154.31 yards per game while their scoring defense was 10th in the land. They intercepted 20 passes to rank 7th in the country and caused 34 total turnovers to ranked 5th in the country. The stingy defense also allowed only 14.62 first downs per game to rank 4th in the NCAA. The Falcon defense was 13th in the NCAA in third-down efficiency allowing teams to convert only 30.86 percent of the time.

If DeRuyter's A&M defense can finish anywhere close to the numbers his '09 Air Force squad produced, the Aggies could find themselves in the thick of the Big 12 title hunt next fall. Still, even with the nation's sack leader returning, rebuilding the Wrecking Crew sooner than later will be no small task. **A**



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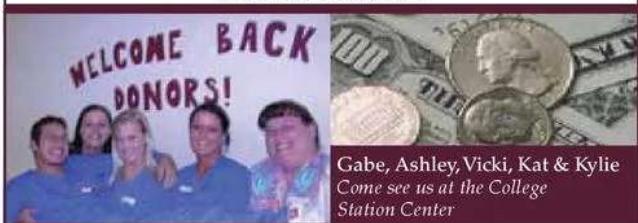
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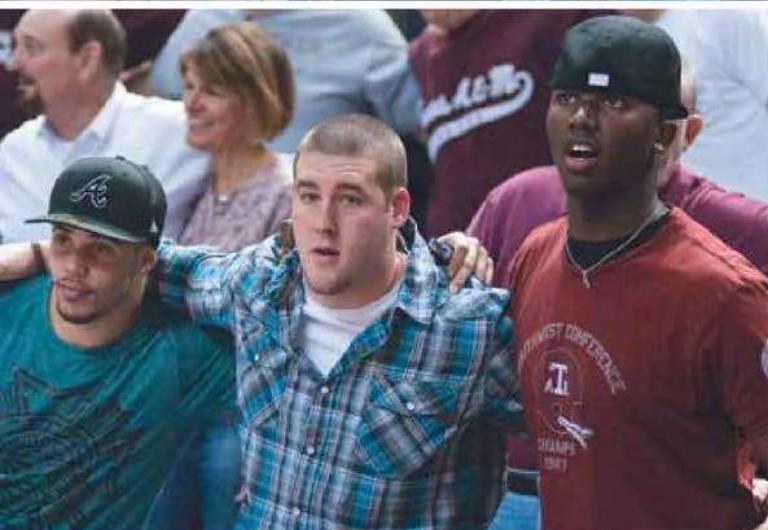
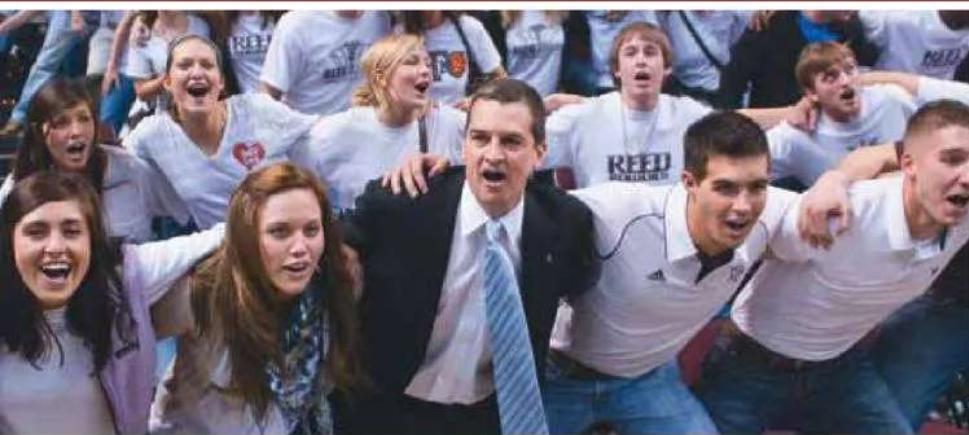
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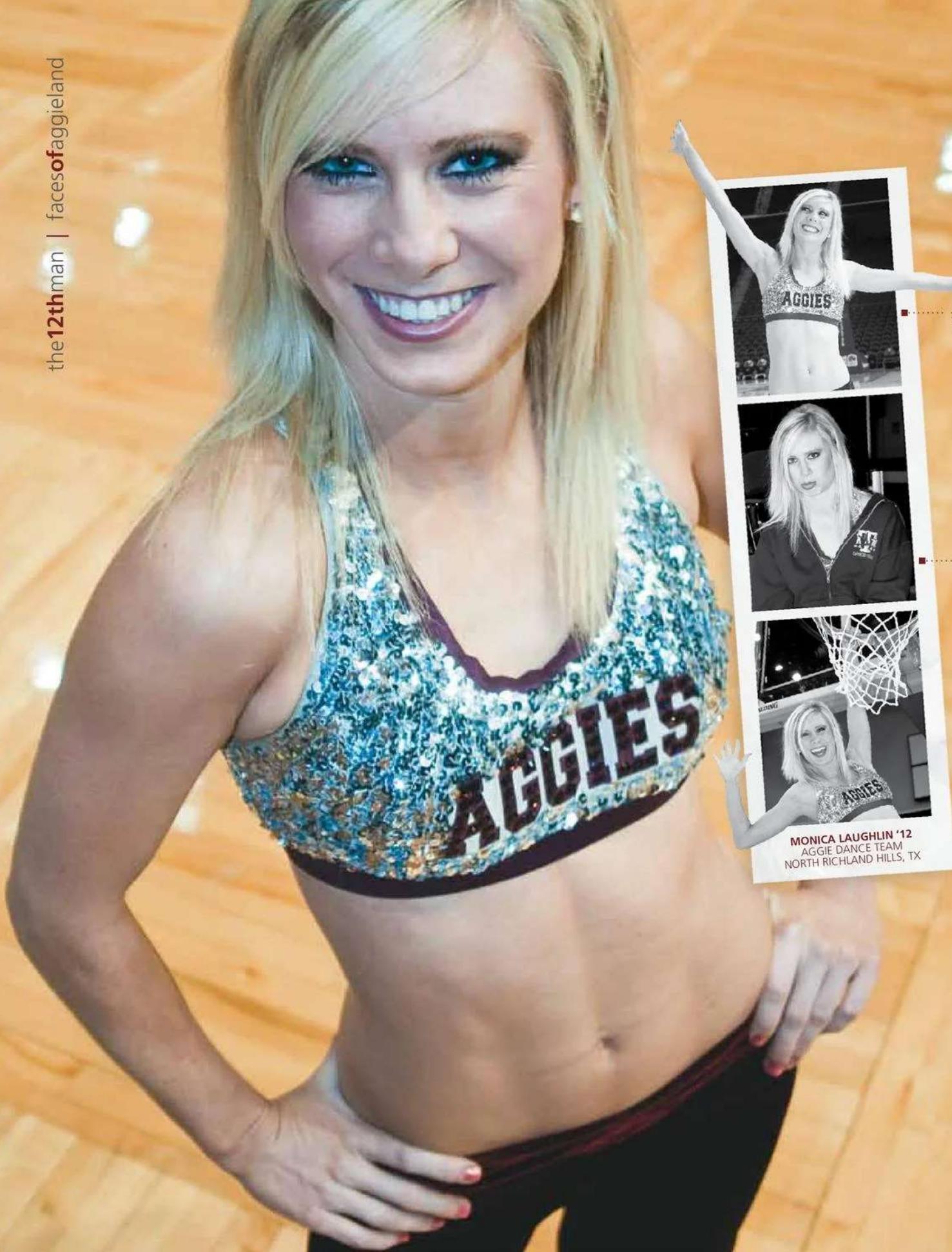
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(above and below) Coach Turgeon shows his appreciation to the students after the win over Oklahoma. (right) The Aggie Dance Team entertains the Reed Arena crowd. (bottom left) Football players Justin McQueen, Tommy Dorman and Jerrod Johnson saw 'em off during the men's basketball game against Colorado. (bottom middle) The Cookie Monster (played by a student known as Tater Tot) was a big hit with kids attending the Nebraska game. (bottom right) Aggie fans line up for autographs from the basketball team.





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**In ten years I'll likely be** working, married, having kids and traveling the world.

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**Favorite traditions:** The 12th Man at football games and the wildcat.

**Movies I can't live without:** Breakfast at Tiffany's and Varsity Blues.

**Music I can't live without:** Texas Country – Eli Young Band.

**TV shows I can't live without:** Friends, So You Think You Can Dance and One Tree Hill.

**The hardest thing about being on the dance team is** keeping our tans. It's hard to stay tan especially in the wintertime. The secret is Sally Hansen. It's a spray-on tan and it's very expensive.

**Besides the Aggies, my favorite sports teams are** the Dallas Cowboys and the Texas Rangers.

**Something unusual about me:** When I wake up in the morning I squeal obnoxiously. It wakes up my roommates and they get mad at me.

**When I was little, I wanted to be** a Dallas Cowboys Cheerleader

**Talent I would most like to have:** I wish I could sing. I'm a horrible singer. All of my friends make fun of me.

**If I had more time I would** travel the world. I really want to go to Paris.

**Favorite food:** Definitely Italian – I love spaghetti. That's the only thing we ever cook.

**Five people I would like to have dinner with:** Tony Romo, Carrie Underwood, Ian Kinsler, George W. Bush and Chad Michael Murray.

**Pet peeve:** I hate when people leave their blinker on when they're driving and don't switch lanes or turn.

**Attribute I like the best about myself:** I'm a very easygoing person and very easy to get along with.

**Attribute I like the least about myself:** When I don't get my way, I tend to pout.

**I came to Texas A&M because** my parents always called me their little Aggie. I don't really know why they did because they didn't go to A&M, but it stuck with me.

**If I could be an animal, I would be** a flamingo because I love pink.

**If I won the lottery, I would** buy a really big house for my family, a yacht and maybe some jewelry from Tiffany's. And maybe a dance team house for us all to live in. **A1**

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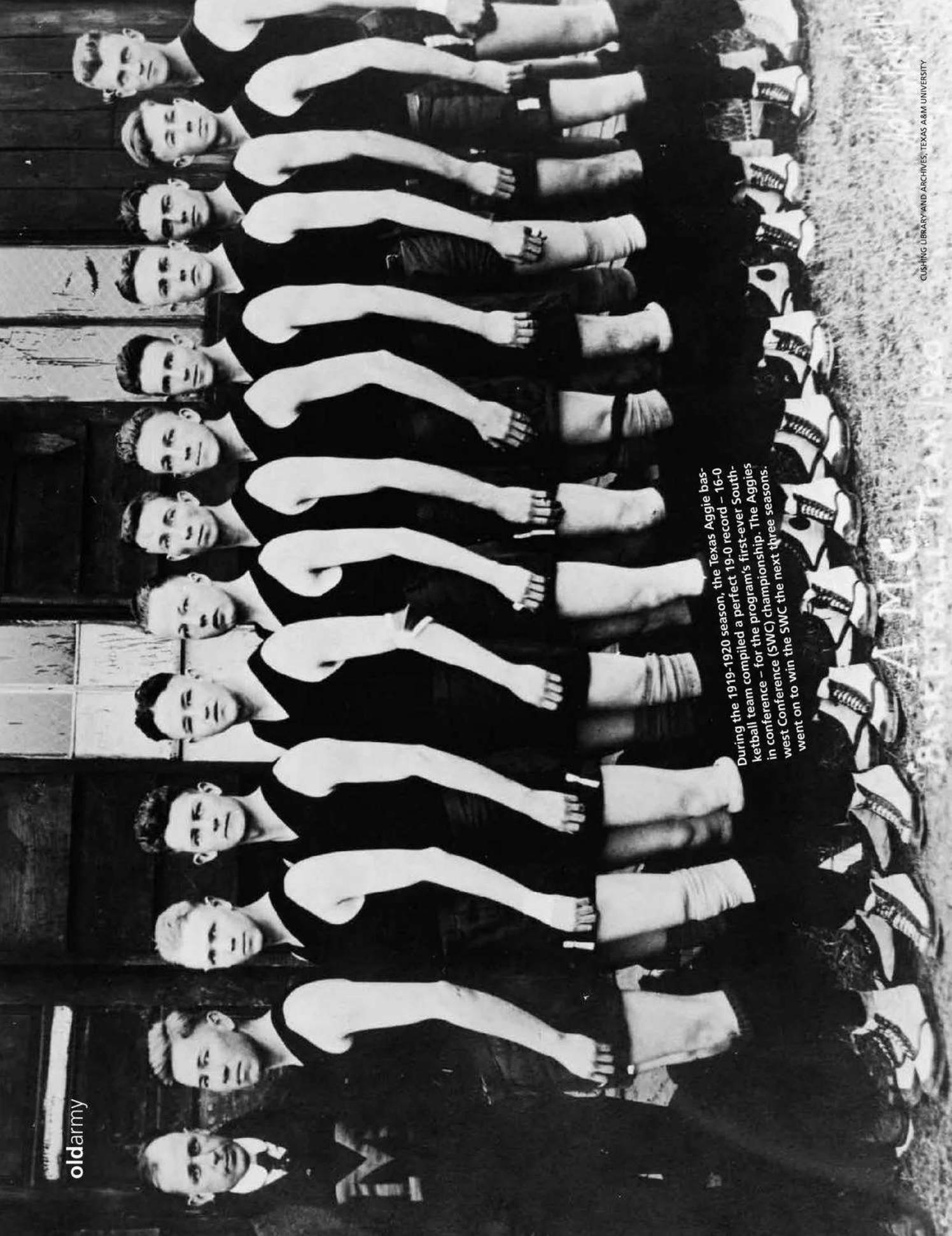


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